(c) whether it is also a fact that no accountability has been fixed for such heavy amounts of unauthorised advances; and

(d) if so, the details and action taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that the assets and liabilities of the Southall (London) Branch of Punjab and Sind Bank have been transferred to Bank of Baroda with effect from the close of business on 31-1-1987.

(b) to (d) Punjab and Sind Bank has reported that its officials at Southall (London) branch had sanctioned/allowed some advances beyond their delegated powers. Some of these advances have become doubtful of recovery. Bank has initiated action for recovery of the dues. The Bank has taken action against one of the Branch Managers. The other Branch Manager resigned from the Bank's service.

Unauthorised advances by Mohali branch of Punjab and Sind Bank

2740. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Branch Manager of Punjab and Sind Bank—Mohali District (Punjab) has given unauthorised advances more than 50 lacs to different parties; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) and (b) Punjab & Sind Bank has reported that some advances made unauthorisedly by the Branch Manager have come to their notice. The amount of such advances as reported by the Regional Manager is about Rs. 19.00 lakhs. The Head Office of the tax has written to the Zonal Manager to take discipinary action against the Branch Manager. Meanwhile the powers of the Branch Manager has been suspended and the bank is investigating further in the matter.

Frauds on Punjab & Sind Bank committed by M/s. Oriental Motors and M|s. Dashmesh Tractors

2741. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred question (a) 2756 dated 2nd December, 1986 in Rajya Sabha regarding the complaints against M/s. Oriental Motors and M/s. Dashmesh Tractors about their involvement in frauds amounting to three crores of Rupees in Bhatinda area branches of Punjab & Sind Bank and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the credit limits of the above concerns were freezed and later on released; if so, the reason thereof;

(b) whetehr it is a fact that the staff members of Bhatinda Branches have been given credit accommodation in the names of their relations unauthorisedly; and

(c) if so, the details and action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) In accordance with the provisions of the statutes governing the nationalised banks and in accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers, the information relating to, or the affairs of individual constituents cannot be divulged.

(b) and (c) Punjab & Sind Bank has reported that according to the Branch Manager(s) of its Bhatinda Branches no such advance exists in which the borrower is a relative of any of the staff members. The Bank has, however, reported that, in another letter received from the General Secretary, All India Punjab & Sind Bank Officers Federation (Reg.), it has been mentioned that certain accounts re-

lated to members of the staff. This allegation requires further investigation.

Raids on residence of Officers of Punjab and Sind Bank

2742. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the House/Office of an Assistant General Manager of Punjab & Sind Bank—Chandigarh was raided by CBI on 24th February, 1987 and currency, documents etc. were seized from their places; and if so, details thereof;

(b) whether the House of the above person was also raided on 31st of January, 1986 and CBI registered cases against him if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this Assistant General Manager has already been involved in Bogus Truck Scandal, Bogus Cheque Purchases and property cases and the CBI has already recommended major penalties against him and the same has been confirmed by C. V. C.;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Bank has been protecting this officer and inspite of all these adverse reports; no immediate action has been taken; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof and what action is being taken against him in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) CBI has reported that searches were conducted at the residence and office of an Assistant General Manager of Punjab & Sind Bank on 24th February, 1987 in connection with RC case No. 2/87/CHG under Section 5(2) read with Section 5(1) (e) of the Prevention of Corruption Act. Movable assets, the value of which is assessed at Rs. 1,03,215; three documents; Rs. 17,000/- in cash and jewellery valued at Rs. 37,110 were seized from the residence, office and bank locker of the said official. The case is under investigation.

(b) The residence of the same official had earlier been searched on 31st January, 1986 in connection with RC No. 5/86-CHG under Section 5(2) read with Section 5(1) (d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act. In this case, CBI had recommended regular departmental action for major penalty against the said official.

(c) to (e) In connection with case No. RC/52/81/CHG relating to truck advances made by the Mota Singh Nagar, Jalandhar branch of the Bank, CBI had recommended regular departmental action for major penalty against the same official. After consulting the Central Vigilance Commission, Punjab & Sind Bank has served a charge-sheet on the official. The CBI has also recommended minor penalty proceedings against the said official in connection with RC No. 31/84/CHG relating to purchase of cheques at Punjab & Sind Bank's Jalandhar branches. This is being processed for obtaining advice of the CVC.

CSIR laboratories and employees

2743. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present number of science laboratories operating under the C. S. I. R.;

(b) what is the present number of employees working under the CSIR and the number of those, among them, who are scientists; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to transfer some of these laboratories; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) There are 41 Research Institutions and Laboratories functioning under the aegis of CSIR.